

December 6, 2016

Mr. David A. Lochbaum,
Director, Nuclear Safety Project
Union of Concerned Scientists
P.O. Box 15316
Chattanooga, TN 37415

Dear Mr. Lochbaum:

This letter is in reference to the September 1, 2016, petition for rulemaking (PRM),¹ that you filed with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) on behalf of the Union of Concerned Scientists and two co-petitioners. You requested that the NRC “promulgate regulations applicable to nuclear power reactors with operating licenses issued by the NRC but in an extended outage.”

The NRC has determined that your request meets the threshold sufficiency requirements for a PRM under § 2.802 of Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations*, “Petition for rulemaking—requirements for filing.” Your petition has been assigned Docket No. PRM-50-114 and Docket ID NRC-2016-0204. Please reference this docket number and ID on any correspondence you may have concerning your PRM.

You have requested a public meeting with the NRC for the purpose of reaching a common understanding of the problems to be resolved by the requested rulemaking. Unlike the public meeting opportunity afforded in the NRC’s § 2.206 process that you mention in your cover letter, there is no public meeting opportunity required in the petition for rulemaking process (§ 2.802). At this time, the NRC does not intend to hold a public meeting on your PRM.

The enclosed notice acknowledging docketing of your PRM and requesting public comment will be published in the *Federal Register* soon.

You can monitor the status of your PRM by searching for Docket ID NRC-2016-0204 on the Federal rulemaking Web site, <http://www.regulations.gov>. In addition, the Federal rulemaking Web site allows you to receive alerts when changes or additions occur in a docket folder. To subscribe: (1) navigate to the docket folder (NRC-2016-0204); (2) click the “E-mail Alert” link; and (3) enter your e-mail address and select how frequently you would like to receive e-mails (daily, weekly, or monthly). The NRC also tracks all petition actions on its Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/rulemaking-ruleforum/petitions-by-year.html>.

¹ Your PRM is available in the NRC’s Agencywide Documents Access and Management System under Accession No. ML16258A486.

D. Lochbaum

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You may direct any technical questions concerning this petition for rulemaking to Ms. Jennifer Tobin at 301-415-2328 (e-mail: Jennifer.Tobin@nrc.gov). For questions related to the NRC's PRM process contact Ms. Jennifer Borges at 301-415-3647 (e-mail: Jennifer.Borges@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

/RA/

Annette L. Vietti-Cook
Secretary of the Commission

Enclosure:
Notice of docketing of PRM